

REMARKS

Applicants have now had an opportunity to carefully consider the Examiner's comments set forth in the Office Action mailed July 29, 2004. The application has been amended in response thereto. Review and reexamination is respectfully requested.

THE EXAMINER'S ACTION

The Examiner rejected claims 1-4, 7-12, 15-16, & 18-20 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by "Introducing SuperPrint: Software for Better Windows Printing" ("the SuperPrint manual"). The examiner objected to claims 5-6, 13-14, 17 & 21 as being dependant upon a rejected base claim. He did, however, indicate these claims would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and intervening claims. Applicant appreciates the indication of allowable subject matter. The claims have been amended to more particularly distinguish the subject invention from the Superprint Manual and to correct the cited problems with respect to 35 U.S.C. §102.

THE SUBJECT EMBODIMENTS

The subject embodiments relate to calibrating and operating an electronic printer output device. It finds particular application when the output device is an electronic printer that uses a tone reproduction curve ("TRC") in order to modify raster data to correct for drift. Drift happens when a calibrated printing device is not printing under its ideal set point due to operating parameters such as specific humidity, temperature, or dust count being at a less than ideal levels. When this happens the output device will deviate from its desired calibrated set point. Accordingly, one embodiment comprises a method for applying individualized calibrated TRCs to enable printing of image data. A further aspect is a system for applying individualized calibrated TRCs to enable printing of image data using a storage means for storing and providing a plurality of calibrated TRCs. Each TRC corresponds to a specific halftone and media type. Once a TRC is selected and applied it is desirable to determine if the resulting TRC is similar to TRCs already stored in the digital front end, the printers storage device. In other words, if the resulting TRC is within certain predetermined parameters of an existing TRC, the

media/halftone combination used to generate the TRC can be mapped to an existing TRC, thereby realizing a savings in memory.

THE CITED ART

The cited reference of the Examiner, the Superprint Manual, discloses a system which uses several variables in order to correct dot gain problems in an output device. More specifically, the system calibrates the halftone printing of an image by making available a plurality of half-tone options. These options which represent various halftone types and media have been pregenerated and stored. A user can determine which option to use and it will be respectively applied. The system also provides a method which allows the user to store the best results for future use. As the Examiner notes this system does not teach or suggest the map generation linking TRCs to media types or halftone combination. (Office Action, paragraph 4)

THE CLAIMS ARE PATNETABLY DISTINGUISHABLE OVER THE REFERENCE

In paragraph two of the Office Action the Examiner comments that Claims 1-4, 7-12, 15-16 & 18-20 are anticipated by "Introducing Superprint: Software for Better Windows Printing" ("The Superprint Manual").

The Examiner will appreciate the claims have been amended to better distinguish the claimed embodiments from the Superprint Manual. By amending claims 1-6, 8, and 18 they have been limited to include a mapping generation arrangement linking TRC to media types. In addition the TRCs must be capable of map generation. As noted in the Office Action, paragraph four, map generation arrangement linking TRCs to media types or halftone combinations is not taught by the cited art. The claims as amended are now in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

For the reasons detailed above, it is submitted all claims remaining in the application (Claims 1-21) are now in condition for allowance. The foregoing comments do not require unnecessary additional search or examination.

No additional fee is believed to be required for this Amendment. However, the undersigned attorney of record hereby authorizes the charging of any necessary

fees, other than the issue fee, to Xerox Deposit Account No. 24-0037.

In the event the Examiner considers personal contact advantageous to the disposition of this case, he/she is hereby authorized to call Patrick Roche, at Telephone Number (216) 861-5582.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date

10/22/04


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